PRESS NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TWO PLEAD GUILTY IN FLORENCE TO MARRIAGE FRAUD

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated that Keren Ettedgy, age 31, of Van Nuys, California and Lucian Barney Todd, age 37, of Loris, South Carolina, both pled guilty Monday in federal court in Florence, to conspiracy to commit marriage fraud, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371. United States District Judge R. Bryan Harwell of Florence accepted the pleas and will impose sentence for Todd after he has reviewed the presentence report which will be prepared by the U.S. Probation Office. Judge Harwell sentenced Ettedgy on Tuesday to 69 days imprisonment and a $1,000.00 fine. Judge Harwell also ordered Ettedgy to return to Israel within 15 days.

Evidence was presented at the guilty plea hearing to establish that Ettedgy and Todd were married on December 29, 2004 in Georgetown County, South Carolina so that Keren Ettedgy, who is a citizen of Israel, could become a citizen of the United States. After the marriage, Ettedgy filed an Application to Request Permanent Resident or Adjust Status form (PRANS) with the United States

Citizenship and Immigration Service falsely stating that Ettedgy and Todd were living together in Yorktown, Virginia. In August 2008, Ettedgy and Todd filed a Petition to Remove Conditional Residency form (PRCNR) falsely stating that they were living in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Mr. Nettles stated the maximum penalty Todd can receive is a fine of $250,000.00 and/or imprisonment for 5 years, plus a special assessment of $100.00.

The case was investigated by agents of the Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Assistant United States Attorney William E. Day, II of the Florence office handled the case.

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